

## IN THE CLAIMS

1. – 8. (Cancelled).
9. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:
  - a feedback path having an input and output terminal, the feedback path including an analog-to-digital converter for processing voice signals;
  - a switch for coupling the input and output terminal of the feedback path in response to receiving a control signal, wherein lesser current flows through the analog-to-digital converter in the feedback path as a result of coupling the input and output terminals; and
  - a ringing generator for providing a ringing signal to a subscriber line in response to the control signal.
10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 9, further including circuitry for:
  - receiving at least a portion of the transmitted ringing signal from the subscriber line; and
  - delivering the portion of the received ringing signal to the input terminal of the feedback path.
11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the analog-to-digital converter of the feedback path converts the received ringing signal to a digital signal.
12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, further including ring-trip detection logic, wherein the ring-trip detection logic generates a ring-trip detection indication in response to the digital signal.

13-18. (Cancelled).

19. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

processing a signal received over a subscriber line by one or more components in a first path, the first path having an input terminal and an output terminal;  
receiving a control signal;  
coupling the input and the output terminal of the first path in response to receiving the control signal such that lesser current flows through at least one of the components while the input and output terminals are coupled; and  
providing a ringing signal to the subscriber line responsive to the control signal.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the first path is a voice path, and wherein processing the signal comprises processing a voice signal received over the subscriber line.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the first path is a loop supervision path, and wherein processing the signal comprises processing a DC signal received over the subscriber line.

22. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:

means for processing a signal received over a subscriber line by one or more components in a first path, the first path having an input terminal and an output terminal;  
means for receiving a control signal;  
means for coupling the input and the output terminal of the first path in response to receiving the control signal, wherein the coupling of the input and output

terminals allows lesser current to flow through at least one of the components;  
and  
means for providing a ringing signal to the subscriber line responsive to the control  
signal.

23. – 24. (Cancelled).